



## SEVEN WAYS TO CONSERVE WATER

1. When washing dishes by hand, don't let the water run while rinsing. Fill one sink with wash water and the other with rinse water.
2. Some refrigerators, air conditioners and ice-makers are cooled with wasted flows of water. Consider upgrading with air-cooled appliances for significant water savings.
3. Adjust sprinklers so only your lawn is watered and not the house, sidewalk, or street.
4. Run your clothes washer and dishwasher only when they are full. You can save up to 1,000 gallons a month.
5. Choose shrubs and groundcovers instead of turf for hard-to-water areas such as steep slopes and isolated strips.
6. Install covers on pools and spas and check for leaks around your pumps.
7. Use the garbage disposal sparingly. Compost vegetable food waste instead and save gallons every time.

See [www.wateruseitwisely.com](http://www.wateruseitwisely.com) for more tips.

### MURFREESBORO WATER AND SEWER

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## MURFREESBORO WATER AND SEWER

## WATER CONSERVATION & TOILET LEAK MANAGEMENT

*"The best kind of leak is the one that is quickly detected and repaired."*

*Customer Service Manager*



**Telephone: 615-848-3209**

## QUICK LEAK DETECTION TABLETS:

TO CHECK FOR TOILET LEAKS, REMOVE THE TOILET TANK LID. WITHOUT FLUSHING, PLACE 2 DYE TABLETS OR, 10 DROPS OF FOOD COLORING, INTO THE TANK. WAIT OVER NIGHT OR AT LEAST 6 HOURS TO OBSERVE THE TOILET BOWL. (TO ACCELERATE THE PROCESS, CRUSH THE TABLETS WHILE IN PACKAGE THEN DROP THE GROUND TABLETS INTO THE TANK). IF THE WATER IN THE TOILET BOWL CHANGES FROM CLEAR TO THE COLOR OF THE TABLET OR DYE, THEN YOU HAVE A TOILET LEAK. SEE INSIDE INSTRUCTIONS OR CONTACT YOUR PLUMBER FOR REPAIRS. DYE TABLETS ARE AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST, BY VISITING OUR OFFICE AT 300 N. W. BROAD STREET.

## GETTING STARTED:

WHEN CHECKING FOR LEAKS CHECK OUTSIDE AND INSIDE FAUCETS, THEN CHECK ALL TOILETS FOR RUNNING WATER.

### BEFORE YOU ATTEMPT TO REPAIR YOUR TOILET LEAK:

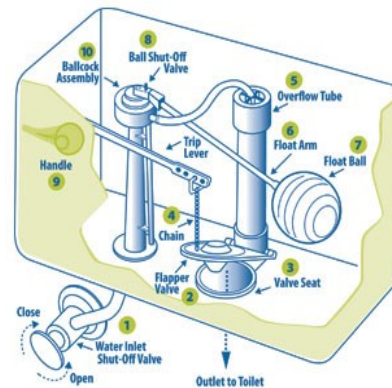
DRAIN YOUR TOILET TANK FIRST. BEGIN BY TURNING OFF THE SHUT OFF VALVE (1) THEN FLUSH THE TOILET. THIS WILL DRAIN THE REMAINING WATER FROM THE TANK. REMOVE ANY EXCESS WATER IN THE TANK WITH A TOWEL OR SPONGE.

## COMMON TOILET LEAK SOURCES:

### FLAPPER MALFUNCTION:

FLAPPERS ARE DESIGNED FOR DYNAMIC SERVICE. WHEN A TOILET IS NOT USED, THE SEAL ON THE FLAPPER TENDS TO CRACK AND LOOSE ITS SEAL. THIS CAUSES THE TOILET TO LEAK.

**CHAIN ADJUSTMENT:** If you are having trouble getting the toilet handle to perform normally and have to jiggle the handle to keep the toilet from running, the chain that controls stopping the water might need adjusting [2] or the handle [9] may have worn out and needs replacing.



**HOW TO REPAIR:** Use a clean towel and a pointy tool to move any debris from the surface or inside part of the chain.[4]. Review the chain after flushing to determine if the chain needs to be adjusted

(shortened or extended). Tighten the nut/screw (9, inside tank ) that holds the toilet handle to the tank. If this tightening does not work you may need to replace your handle.

**FLAPPER REPLACEMENT:** Flappers are designed for dynamic service. When toilets are not used frequently cracks develop along the perimeter of the seal and allows water to slowly leak into the toilet bowl. A leaking flapper valve (2) may be the cause of the leak. If the valve is not seated properly on the valve seat (3) water leaks occur. **To fix;** gently rub the bottom of the flapper perimeter (2) with your finger. If black streaks from the rubber come off on your finger, your flapper valve is leaking and should be replaced.

Secondly, clean the valve seat (3) to remove corrosion or debris that may be interfering with the flapper valve from seating firmly. Then TURN ON THE VALVE (1) TO REFILL

THE TANK AND TRY FLUSHING. IF THE FLAPPER VALVE DOES NOT SEAT FIRMLY, CHECK THE CHAIN BECAUSE IT MAY NOT BE PROPERLY ALIGNED AND MAY NEED ADJUSTING.

**OVER FLOW TUBE ADJUSTMENTS:** If the water level in the toilet tank is at the top of the overflow tube (5) then this could result in unnecessary loss of water. **To Fix:** Locate the top of the ball shut off valve (8). If the adjustment screw is

available, tighten the screw clock wise two turns. The water level should be 1" below top of over flow tube (5). Flush the toilet and see if the leak has been resolved. If there isn't an adjustment screw present,



gently bend the float arm (6) downward until the water shuts off and the water level should drop below the top of the tube (5). If this does not work, you may need to replace or adjust the float ball(7). Turn the float ball (7) clock wise to tighten it. This should shut off the water. Otherwise you will need to replace the ball. Before you replace the ball shut off valve (8).

**When replacing the toilet, select energy efficient water conservation items. They are designed to reduce water consumption without losing performance. If replacing guts of a toilet , review the latest mechanisms and weigh the pros and cons for water consumption.**